



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/565,931

01/20/2006

Mattheus Jacobus Van Der Meer

NL 030914

9392

24737

7590

04/26/2010

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS

P.O. BOX 3001

BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

PETERSON, KENNETH E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3724

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/26/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/565,931	Applicant(s) VAN DER MEER, MATTHEUS JACOBUS	
	Examiner Kenneth Peterson	Art Unit 3724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3 and 5-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3 and 5-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01 mar 10</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. The amendment filed 01 April 10 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows:

The changes made to figure 5a are new matter.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

2. Claims 1,3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The device, as seen in the original figure 5a and described on pages 4 and 5 of the specification, is non-functional. The trimming function, seen in figure 5b, works fine, but when electrical contacts 36 are slid down in figure 5a, they short out the power supply. It is easy to see that electricity leaving the power supply in figure 5a via wire 33 will proceed along the diagonal wire, then down the left switch 36, down the wire 32 and right back to the opposite pole of the power supply. This situation can quickly lead to fire or at the very least significant overheating.

Even in the new matter figure 5a, it is not clear what parts are conductive. Are all four of the U-shaped elements on the ends of contacts 36 conductive? If the U-shaped

Art Unit: 3724

elements are conductive, then the device is will still short in figure 5a. If the U-shaped elements are not conductive, then no power will be transmitted in figure 5a.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 1, 3, 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Futterer et al. (3,213,536) in view of Ullmann et al. (5,701,673).

Futterer shows a razor with most of the recited limitations including;

A cutter (16),

A trimmer (15),

A drive (27),

Means for reversing (lines 4-14, column 2) the drive structure such that the trimmer is removed from the drive structure,

A unidirectional clutch (9).

Futterer's trimmer has only one position. However, these days it is ubiquitous to have the trimmer pop out from the razor and such that the trimmer starts only when popped out. An example of this is Ullmann (see figures 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a). Ullmann's trimmer only has a cutting action when popped out, by way of engaging drives 10 and 11 only when popped out. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Futterer by placing his trimmer on a pop-out arm such that the trimmer

Art Unit: 3724

starts only when popped out, as taught by Ullmann and many others, in order to have a trimmer that can reach hard-to-reach places such as ears and under the chin. Since Ullmann teaches popping out the trimmer via actuation of the electrical mode switch, the ability to pop out the trimmer on Futterer would also occur via the electrical mode switch (his motor reverse switch), and thus the reversing of the motor would occur in response the popping out of the trimmer.

In regards to claim 3, Futterer has a switching circuitry (28).

In regards to claim 5, Futterer's trimmer drive "branches off" at a shaft (1, see figures 1-3).

5. Claims 1,3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Futterer et al.(3,213,536) in view of Ullmann et al.(5,701,673), as set forth above, and further in view of in view of Bergsma (US 4,355,464).

In regards to at least claims 6 and 8, the modified apparatus of Futterer still does not disclose the shaver wherein the number of cycles per unit of time of the driven trimmer is higher than said number of revolutions per unit time of the at least one driven cutter. Bergsma discloses a shaving apparatus a plurality of rotary shaving elements (2, 4) and a trimmer (21). The trimmer and the plurality of rotary shaving elements are both driven by a motor (6) and a gear system (see figures 1 and 2) such that the frequency of the trimmer and the RPMs of the rotary cutter can be selected independently (see column 2 lines 27-32). Further, Bergsma discloses that it is preferable to have the rotary shaving element be driven at a lower number of RPMs

Art Unit: 3724

than the frequency of the trimmer so as to reduce wear, friction, heat, and noise (see column 1 lines 24-27). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the shaver of Futterer to have the number of cycles per unit of time of the driven trimmer be higher than said number of revolutions per unit time of the at least one driven cutter in view of the teachings of Bergsma in order to reduce wear, friction, heat, and noise.

6. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In regard to the rejection under 112, 1st paragraph, Applicant argues that one of ordinary skill would recognize that Applicant's wiring, as seen in figure 5a was defective. Examiner agrees that one of ordinary skill would recognize this.

However, this does not change the fact that one of ordinary skill would not readily know what to do with Applicant's odd wiring scheme and sliding double-contact to get it to work. As evidenced by Applicant's new figure 5a (also defective as set forth above), it appears that Applicant himself does not know what to do with it, or at least does not know how to describe it.

In regard to the 103 rejection, Applicant attacks each reference individually and surmises non-obviousness based upon neither reference teaching the whole invention. However, Examiner is required to determine what the references *together* would suggest to one of ordinary skill. In this case, Futterer teaches using an electrical switch to cause motor reversing, thus switching cutting modes. Ullman teaches popping out the trimmer via motion of the electrical switch. This is a very simple and straightforward

Art Unit: 3724

modification with excellent motivations (in order to have a pop-out trimmer that can reach hard-to-reach places such as ears and under the chin). When converting Futterer's trimmer to have pop-out capabilities, one would naturally have the pop-out be initiated by Futterer's existing electrical switch, since that is what Ullman teaches.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth Peterson whose telephone number is (571)272-4512. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:30AM-5PM.

Art Unit: 3724

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on (571)272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kenneth Peterson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3724